

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6991

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5704

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SW, NL

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON

1. MFA DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS DE HOOP SCHEFFER GAVE US READ OUT ON VISIT EARLIER THIS WEEK OF SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON. HE EXPLAINED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL AND ANDERSSON WERE OLD FRIENDS AND THEIR DISCUSSIONS HAD REFLECTED THIS FACT. MOREOVER, THERE ARE NO BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. PRIMARY TOPICS COVERED WERE EASTERN EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING PROBLEM PRESENTED BY SHIFTING STATUS OF PLO, DISARMAMENT AND UN.

2. ANDERSSON, WHO HAD JUST COME FROM A THREE-DAY VISIT TO BUDAPEST, TOLD VAN DERS STOEL THAT HE FEARED THAT EASTERN EUROPEANS WERE SEEKING TO REINTERPRET CSCE FINAL ACT IN BILATERAL COMMUNIQUE. HE HAD RESISTED HUNGARIAN EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD. HUNGARIANS HAD POINTED OUT THAT MORE SWEDISH BOOKS TRANSLATED INTO HUNGARIAN THAN VICE VERSA AND THAT ASKED SWEDISH INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD. SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER APPARENTLY REPLIED COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN SUCH ENTERPRISES AND LET MATTER DROP. HUNGARIANS WERE NOT VERY INTERESTED IN MBFR AND

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TOLD HIM THAT ONLY AFTER CONCLUSION OF SALT II COULD THERE BE ANY

MOVEMENT IN VIENNA.

3. SWEDEN INTENDS PROPOSE IN UN REVIEW OF ALL DISARMAMENT ACTIVITIES IN EFFORT TO REDUCE PROLIFERATION OF DISARMAMENT FORUMS. ANDERSSON COMPLAINED THAT DUTCH HAD DRIFTED AWAY FROM SWEDES ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL, PARTICULARLY REGARDING "DUBIOUS WEAPONS." VAN DER STOEL REPLIED THAT GON WANTED CLEAR-CUT DEFINITION OF WHAT WEAPONARY FELL IN THAT CATEGORY BEFORE AGREEING TO CONTROLS. SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER NOTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS CONTINUING ITS PIG SHOOTING TESTS.

4. VAN DER STOEL EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN ABOUT POLARIZATION AT THE UN, NOTING THAT RISK OF SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL REMAINS REAL. ZIONISM RESOLUTION AS WELL AS RESOLUTIONS GIVING PLO PLACE AT GENEVA TALKS WERE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO DUTCH. BECAUSE OF PRECEDENTS, ANDERSSON SAID THAT SWEDEN COULD NOT DENY PLO REQUEST TO ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION OFFICE.

5. TWO MINISTERS REVIEWED PRESENT SITUATION IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL, THOUGH ON LATTER BOTH AGREED THERE WAS LITTLE CONCRETE TO GO ON. DISCUSSION ON SPAIN HAD FOCUSED ON ATTENDANCE AT FRANCO FUNERAL WHERE DUTCH IN END TO BE REPRESENTED ONLY BY AMBASSADOR AND NOW FEEL THAT EARLIER SEQUENCE UNDER WHICH JUAN CARLOS WOULD BE FORMALLY INSTALLED PRECEDING DAY IS UNLIKELY. DUTCH UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THERE MAY BE FORMAL INAUGURATION FOR JUAN CARLOS AT SOME LATER DATE, IN WHICH CASE DUTCH ATTENDANCE WOULD BE DETERMINED BY POLITICAL DIRECTION OF SPAIN.

6. SUBJECT OF ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE WAS REVIEWED. DE HOOP SCHEFFER SAID DUTCH WOULD FOLLOW USUAL PRACTICE SO FAR AS RECOGNITION OF INDEPENDENCE BUT WOULD NOT ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH ANY OF COMPETING POLITICAL FACTIONS.

7. MINISTERS ALSO DISCUSSED DEVELOPMENT AID TO LDC'S. DE HOOP SCHEFFER OBSERVED THAT DUTCH AND SWEDISH PRIME MINISTERS HAD IDENTICAL VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT (THE HAGUE 5638).
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